

ACC

10000/120/2643

ST/424

MAR.

10000/120/2643

ST/404 Control of Italian Army (Road) Movements
MAR. - OCT. 1945

815

SUBJECT:- Transfer of Vehicles to Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MILIA)
Rome.
Tel : Rome 439081 Ext 526

26 Oct 45

To:- War Ministry.

1. Further to this office letter 0/5/10 of 23 October, the transfers of vehicles referred to therein should be handled as follows:-

(a) Initial Handover.

On receipt of information showing the areas in which each batch of vehicles will be made available, you will agree with the Ministry of Transport, this HQ, the local Territorial ^{Command} and the MILIAO attached thereto on a suitable site in which the vehicles are to be handed over. The Territorial HQ will be responsible for taking over the vehicles on this site, for the ~~transferring~~ temporary provision of guards, and for a detachment of the local Repair Unit to segregate any inefficient vehicle (or vehicles handed over for cannibalisation) and arrange for the transfer of such vehicles to the local Repair Unit.

(b) On completion of the handover.

(i) The Territorial Comd will give the Ministry of War particulars in respect of all vehicles taken over, and apply for a "block" of new RE target nos for the vehicles in question.

(ii) All efficient vehicles will be transferred to the nearest Efficient Vehicle Park, who will be responsible for obliterating the original markings, substituting the new target nos referred to above, and informing the Ministry of War, SARE

*(Spare parts to be sent to SARE)
of follow up markings*

Transport, this HQ, the Local Territorial ^{to hand} and the MIHALO attached thereto on a suitable site in which the vehicles are to be handed over. The Territorial HQ will be responsible for taking over the vehicles on this site, for the ~~transferring~~ temporary provision of guards, and for a detachment of the Local Repair Unit to segregate any inefficient vehicle (or vehicles handed over for cannibalisation) and arrange for the transfer of such vehicles to the local Repair Unit.

(b) On completion of the handover.

(i) The Territorial Cmd will give the Ministry of War/particulars ^(grant and transfer of funds at below - Motor Vehicle) in respect of all vehicles taken over, and apply for a "block" of new RE target nos for the vehicles in question.

(ii) All efficient vehicles will be transferred to the nearest Efficient Vehicle Park, who will be responsible for obliterating the original markings, substituting the new targa nos ¹⁶¹⁸ referred to above, and informing the Ministry of War, SARE daily, through the appropriate Territorial Comd, of the number completed and ready for issue.

Vehicles will not be shown as available for issue until the new military targa number has been ^A pointed on them, and the new targa nos will not be painted onto any vehicles unless they are efficient.

Territorial Cmds should be instructed to attach, temporarily to the EVPs ~~the~~ ^{concerned,} personnel from their respective Repair Unit, in order to expedite this work.

It is most important that EVPs should clearly distinguish in their daily telegrams to SARE, Ministry of War, between vehicles of Italian and those of Allied manufacture.

(c) Releases in respect of all Allied type vehicles will be controlled by Min of War Staff in conjunction with this HQ, irrespective of the LVP in which such vehicles are held.

2. Since the number of vehicles which will be taken over are likely to exceed existing vehicle deficiencies by a large margin, it is intended eventually to transfer vehs of Allied manufacture from the various Efficient Vehicle Parks in which they will initially be held and centralise them in two or three Parks only. With this in view, you are requested to advise Nos. 3 and

A Territorial Cmds that they should immediately review the sites of Nos 7 and 6 EVPs at MILLAN and VERONA respectively, and take all necessary steps to ensure that these parks are each capable of housing at least 600 vehicles. Should the existing sites be unsuitable, energetic steps should be taken to find new ones of the size required.

Copies to: ALL MMIA IOs

Internal: ST
REME

ROUTE CARDDESTINATION: NAPLES - ROUTE 7

ROME	
ALBANO	25 Km.
VEIJETRI	50 "
LITTORIA	70 "
TERRACINA	98 "
FONDI	112 "
FORMIA	135 "
CAPUA	195 "
NAPLES	240 "

DENSITY 50 Yds between vehicles

K.P.H. 30

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONVOY COMMANDERS

- (1) The convoy commander is solely responsible for the care and discipline of the convoy and the stores it is transporting and that the appropriate orders are enforced and obeyed.
- (2) He is responsible that all drivers are in possession of a Route Card (as specimen attached) and are acquainted with the destination of the day's run and with the final destination of the convoy.
- (3) A blue flag will be displayed on leading vehicles and a green flag on the last vehicle. No other vehicle in the convoy will display a flag except wreckers and ambulances.
- (4) Each vehicle in the convoy will bear the convoy serial number. This will be marked on the front and rear in chalk or other legible marking.
- (5) He will not consider himself as convoy leader. He will pull out at interval to watch convoy pass, and make any comments to his WCOs or Section Commanders at the next halt for necessary action.
- (6) The speed of the convoy will be governed by that of the slowest vehicle. The foremost vehicle should never exceed 30 K.P.H.
- (7) Correct intervals will be kept between vehicles at all times and convoys will not double bank or pass another convoy without specific directions of traffic control personnel.
- (8) Convoys will not except in emergencies stop on the highway for any purpose whatever. Halts will only be made at regulation halting places. When stopping for emergencies march distances will be maintained between vehicles which will draw off to the right of the road as far as possible. A man from each vehicle will be posted on the left of the road to signal on coming traffic.
- (9) It is forbidden to carry civilians in Military Transport at any time unless they possess a special permit.
- (10) Smoking when driving a military vehicle is forbidden.
- (11) In event of an accident occurring the convoy commander will ensure that full particulars are taken and that the full circumstances are reported to the Regimental Office immediately on return of convoy.
- (12) Convoy commander is responsible for all recovery arrangements. When a vehicle becomes a casualty needing repair a responsible driver will remain with the vehicle until the repair has been completed. Full instructions will be given to the driver regarding destination, delivery of the vehicle immediately it has been made fit for the road.

1615

- (4) Each vehicle in the convoy will bear the convoy serial number. This will be marked on the front and rear in chalk or other legible marking.
- (5) He will not consider himself as convoy leader. He will pull out at interval to watch convoy pass, and make any comments to his COOs or Section Commanders at the next halt for necessary action.
- (6) The speed of the convoy will be governed by that of the slowest vehicle. The foremost vehicle should never exceed 50 K.P.H.
- (7) Correct intervals will be kept between vehicles at all times and convoys will not double bank or pass another convoy without specific directions of traffic control personnel.
- (8) Convoys will not except in emergencies stop on the highway for any purpose whatever. Halts will only be made at regulation halting places. When stopping for emergencies march distances will be maintained between vehicles which will draw off to the right of the road as far as possible. A man from each vehicle will be posted on the left of the road to signal on coming traffic.
- (9) It is forbidden to carry civilians in Military Transport at any time unless they possess a special permit.
- (10) Smoking when driving a military vehicle is forbidden.
- (11) In event of an accident occurring the convoy commander will ensure that full particulars are taken and that the full circumstances are reported to the Regimental Office immediately on return of convoy.
- (12) Convoy commander is responsible for all recovery arrangements. When a vehicle becomes a casualty needing repair a responsible driver will remain with the vehicle until the repair has been completed. Full instructions will be given to the driver regarding destination, delivery of the vehicle immediately it has been made fit for the road.
- (13) A vehicle will never be left abandoned. If the damage is such as to be beyond the facilities of the convoy commander the driver must remain with the vehicle until a recovery unit can be contacted.
- (14) A receipt will be obtained in all cases when a vehicle is left with a recovery or repair unit.
- (15) On completion of day's journey the convoy commander will ensure that the vehicles are in every way fit for the road before commencing the journey on following day.

.../.....

- (16) He will be responsible for ensuring that any special speed limits for particular areas are complied with.
- (17) Pilfering. Convoy commander will take any possible steps to trace persons guilty of pilfering.

SUBJECT: Road Convoys.

RESTRICTED

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
SD/42/5
Mar 45.

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Your attention is drawn to the recent move of 2 Italian GI Coy from AFRAGOLA to CESANO DI ROMA on the 7th March. The move involved 76 vehicles and to conform to US Regulations the convoy was split into three march units, a movement order, serial BN/03N/19 was issued by PBS South and collected by a representative of the Coy from Movements West Italy.

2. At 1010 hours on the 7th March, at a point immediately North of CAPUA 24 vehicles were seen drawn up alongside the road and as only a few of the vehicles bore convoy numbers, an NCO was approached to check his authority for having vehicles on the road. It transpired, the NCO was in charge of one of the march units referred to above and whilst he knew the ultimate destination, he had no idea by which route North the convoy would take, as he was not in possession of a route card or copy of the movement order. The seriousness of this march unit becoming detached from the main party and travelling along the wrong route cannot be too strongly emphasised.

3. This incident was probably due entirely to ignorance of the system. You are requested therefore to issue strict instructions to all units and formations which send out convoys of vehicles to the effect that the Convoy Commander is responsible for strict road discipline throughout the march. He must ensure in particular:

- (a) that if the convoy is split a reliable officer or NCO is placed in charge of each batch of vehicles and is in possession of detailed instructions as to routes, timings and halts.
- (b) that each vehicle is marked with the convoy number.

tvs.

INTERNAL: Mov.

1612
Major General.
M.M.I.A.

M. J. Taylor

30 VEHICLE COMPANY, R.A.O.C., C.M.F.

RE-PRINT OF STANDARD ORDER NO. 5.

Park Movement Orders for Convoy Commanders.

1. A Convoy is a group of vehicles moving at one time in a concerted formation, and Districts, Base Sections and Area may determine the number of vehicles to so compose a Convoy within their District.

2. When any Convoy is despatched from a Vehicle Park, authorisation and instructions prior to any movement must be obtained from the Movements Office of the Area concerned.

3. Such authorisations and instructions will be incorporated in the form of a Movement Order to be given to the Officer of R.A.O.C. i/c Convoy.

4. This Movement Order will be always in the form shown in Appendix "A".

5. O.C.'s Vehicle Parks will be responsible for issuing these Movement Orders to the Convoy Commanders of all Convoys despatched from their Park.

Colonel,
Commanding 30 Vehicle Company, R.A.O.C.

In the Field,
3rd Sept. 44.

DISTRIBUTION.

- D.O.S., A.F.H.Q. (5)
- D.D.O.S., H.Q., A.A.I. (5)
- D.D.O.S., 5th Army.
- D.D.O.S., 8th Army.
- D.D.O.S., I. of C.
- D.D.O.S., 1 District.
- D.D.O.S., 2 District.
- D.D.O.S., 3 District.
- D.M.E., A.F.H.Q.
- D.D.M.E., A.F.H.Q.
- Chief Inspector MEME,
- Inspectorate A.F.H.Q.
- Chief Inspector REHE,
- Inspectorate A.A.I.
- War Diary.

- O.C., 2 Vehicle Group
- O.C., 3 Vehicle Group
- O.C., 4 Vehicle Group
- O.C., 1 Transit Vehicle Park (East)
- O.C., 1 Transit Vehicle Park (West)
- O.C., 5 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 6 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 7 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 8 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 9 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 10 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 11 Returned Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 12 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 13 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 14 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 15 Returned Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 16 Vehicle Park.

- 3. Such authorisations and instructions will be incorporated in the form of a Movement Order to be given to the Officer or R.C.O. i/c Convoy.
- 4. This Movement Order will be always in the form shown in Appendix "A".
- 5. O.G's Vehicle Parks will be responsible for issuing these Movement Orders to the Convoy Commanders of all Convoys despatched from their Park.

Colonel,
Commanding 39 Vehicle Company, R.A.A.O.C.

In the Field,
2nd Sept. 44.

DISTRIBUTION.

- D.O.S., A.F.H.Q. (5)
- D.D.O.S., H.Q., A.A.I. (5)
- D.D.O.S., 5th Army.
- D.D.O.S., 8th Army.
- D.D.O.S., I. of C.
- D.D.O.S., 1 District.
- D.D.O.S., 2 District.
- D.D.O.S., 3 District.
- D.I.E., A.F.H.Q.
- D.D.M.E., A.F.H.Q.
- Chief Inspector RMT, -
- Inspectorato A.F.H.Q.
- Chief Inspector RME,
- Inspectorato A.A.I.

War Diary.

- O.C., 2 Vehicle Group
- O.C., 3 Vehicle Group
- O.C., 4 Vehicle Group
- O.C., 1 Transit Vehicle Park (East)
- O.C., 1 Transit Vehicle Park (West)
- O.C., 5 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 6 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 7 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 8 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 9 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 10 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 11 Returned Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 12 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 13 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 14 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 15 Returned Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 16 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 17 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 18 Vehicle Park.
- O.C., 409 (Italian) Returned Vehicle Park.
- O.i/c Catania Detachment.
- O.i/c Fort Detachment, Brindisi.
- O.i/c Fort Detachment, Taranto.
- O.i/c Port Detachment, Bari.

APPENDIX "A".

SECRET. NO. _____ PARK _____ GROUP. REF: _____

58 VEHICLE COMPANY, C.M.F.

Movement Order No. _____

Convoy Serial No. _____

_____ i/c CONVOY.

1. As Convoy Commander you are responsible that all the following regulations are carried out.
2. Vehicles and personnel as per attached lists will move forward at _____ hours on _____.
3. All personnel will be armed and carry 50 rounds B.A.A. in the case of those armed with rifles, and 12 rounds in the case of those armed with pistols.
4. Before Convoy departs, all drivers will be briefed, and given details of route, V.T., M.I.K. and Staging Areas, together with final destination.
5. Rations for _____ days, Water for _____ days, and petrol and oil for _____ miles will be carried. You will be personally responsible for seeing this is done.
6. A blue flag will be displayed on the leading vehicle and a Green Flag on the last vehicle. No other vehicles in the convoy will display a flag, except Trackers and Ambulances.
7. Each vehicle in the Convoy will bear the Convoy Serial No. indicated above. This will be marked on the front and rear in chalk or other legible marking.
8. This Convoy will not double back or pass another Convoy without specific directions of Traffic Control personnel.
9. This Convoy will not, except in emergencies, stop on the highway for any purpose whatever. Regulation halts may be made as indicated in part 14. When stopping for emergencies, march distances will be maintained between vehicles, which will draw off to the right of the road as far as possible. A man from each vehicle will be posted on the left of the road to signal oncoming traffic, and you are responsible for notifying any Convoy in the rear of the halt.
10. You are personally responsible for the discipline of the Convoy, and for the care of the vehicles, stores and equipment en route.
11. You will hand over the Vouchers for any vehicles delivered and for any stores carried, and will hand into the Park Office the receipt copies of vouchers on your return.
12. At the commencement of each _____ in accordance with C.R.O.

1/c Convoy.

1. As Convoy Commander you are responsible that ~~all~~ the following regulations are carried out.
2. Vehicles and personnel as per attached lists will move forward at _____ hours on _____.
3. All personnel will be armed and carry 50 rounds S.A.M. in the case of those armed with rifles, and 12 rounds in the case of those armed with pistols.
4. Before Convoy departs, all drivers will be paraded, and given details of route, V.T., M.I.H. and Staging Areas, together with final destination.
5. Rations for _____ days, Water for _____ days, and petrol and oil for _____ miles will be carried. You will be personally responsible for seeing this is done.
6. A blue flag will be displayed on the leading vehicle and a Green flag on the last vehicle. No other vehicles in the convoy will display a flag, except Trackers and ambulances.
7. Each vehicle in the Convoy will bear the Convoy Serial No. indicated above. This will be marked on the front and rear in chalk or other legible marking.
8. This Convoy will not double back or pass another Convoy without specific directions of Traffic Control personnel.
9. This Convoy will not, except in emergencies, stop on the highway for any purpose whatever. Regulation No. 14 may be made as indicated in para 14. When stopping for emergencies, march distances will be maintained between vehicles, which will draw off to the right of the road as far as possible. A man from each vehicle will be posted on the left of the road to signal oncoming traffic, and you are responsible for notifying any Convoy in the rear of the halt.
10. You are personally responsible for the discipline of the Convoy, and for the care of the vehicles, stores and equipment en route.
11. You will hand over the Vouchers for any vehicles delivered and for any stores carried, and will hand into the Park Office the receipt copies of vouchers on your return.

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Add :- "and that his tyre pressures are in accordance with P.R.O. 345/44".

13. Stores will be delivered to the destination shown in the documents accompanying them.
14. You will render a written report on the Convoy to H.Q. _____ Group Officer, through C.C., No. _____ Vehicle Park at the conclusion of the duty.

1/6 Convoy.

1. As Convoy Commander you are responsible that ~~all~~ the following regulations are carried out.
2. Vehicles and personnel as per attached lists will move forward at _____ hours
oil _____.
3. All personnel will be armed and carry 50 rounds S.A.A. in the case of those armed with rifles, and 12 rounds in the case of those armed with pistols.
4. Before Convoy departs, all drivers will be paraded, and given details of route, V.T.C., M.I.H. and Staging Areas, together with final destination.
5. Rations for _____ days, Water for _____ days, and petrol and oil for _____ miles will be carried. You will be personally responsible for seeing this is done.
6. A blue flag will be displayed on the leading vehicle and a Green Flag on the last vehicle. No other vehicles in the convoy will display a flag, except Wreckers and Ambulances.
7. Each vehicle in the Convoy will bear the Convoy Serial No. indicated above. This will be marked on the front and rear in chalk or other legible marking.
8. This Convoy will not double back or pass another Convoy without specific directions of Traffic Control personnel.
9. This Convoy will not, except in emergencies, stop on the highway for any purpose whatever. Regulation halts may be made as indicated in para 14. When stopping for emergencies, march distances will be maintained between vehicles, which will draw off to the right of the road as far as possible. A man from each vehicle will be posted on the left of the road to signal oncoming traffic, and you are responsible for notifying any Convoy in the rear of the halt.
10. You are personally responsible for the discipline of the Convoy, and for the care of the vehicles, stores and equipment en route.
11. You will hand over the Vouchers for any vehicles delivered and for any stores carried, and will hand into the Park Office the receipt copies of vouchers on your return.
12. At the commencement of each day you will obtain a report from each driver to the effect that he has checked up on petrol, oil and water, and that his vehicle is mechanically fit to proceed.
13. Stores will be delivered to the destination shown in the documents accompanying them.
14. You will render a written report on the Convoy to H.Q. _____ Group Office, through O.C., No. _____ Vehicle Park at the conclusion of the duty.

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